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MAC/MR

3-13-71

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ACTION: AmEmbassy MOSCOW

INFO: USUN

SUBJ: Rabbi Kahane Pleads Guilty

REF: Moscow 4841; USUN 1857

1. Dept understands from Justice Dept that charges against other ten defendants will not be dropped until they have testified before Grand Jury regarding possession of firearms and weapons. It hoped that such testimony will assist USG to confiscate all weapons and ~~or~~ explosives now held illegally by JDL. Presumably the charges will not be dismissed against those defendants who do not testify, including two fugitives from Justice outside US.

2. Salient point of settlement in our view is as we understand from Justice, that sentence of Kahane and others will be deferred until court ~~receives~~ receives report from USG as to degree of cooperation Govt has

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received from JDL in round-up of firearms and explosives. This appears to us to be clear indication that a court has for first time added its powers to support Government's efforts to locate JDL weapons and explosives.

3. Given such deferral of sentencing would appear possible that Kahane could receive jail sentence. We believe that if JDL proves uncooperative in court-ordered search for weapons and explosives, USG officers will seek maximum jail sentence possible for Kahane and others who pleaded guilty. (Of course, sentence ~~is~~ remains for judge's decision.)

4. In discussion with Soviets, believe pre-trial resolution ~~will~~ be portrayed in highly positive terms. Hope that interested persons will withhold criticism of settlement, ~~which~~ still evolving, until they in position to evaluate all results of

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settlement, which we believe will prove favorable to
USG. Case should be portrayed as a substantial
step in our law-enforcement efforts against anti-
Soviet violence, but of course should not be charac-
terized as likely to end possibility of all future
anti-Soviet harassment.

END

5. Dept will attempt to obtain further details on ~~the~~ settlement.

July 12.

GP-4

END

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